

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5868

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NATOMIN DECEMBER 73: FORMAT FOR NAC MINISTERIAL MEETING

REF: STATE 236153

1. I DISCUSSED THE CONTENTS OF REFTEL WITH SYG LUNS THIS MORNING BEFORE THE COUNCIL SESSION. LUNS FEELS A PRIVATE MEETING WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO AVOID AT THIS POINT EVEN THOUGH THE SUGGESTION FOR ONE CAME FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER. NOT ONLY DOES THE SYG HIMSELF FREQUENTLY CALL FOR PRIVATE MINISTERS' SESSIONS BUT OTHER ALLIANCE MEMBERS ALSO HAVE THE RIGHT TO CALL FOR SUCH MEETINGS. LUNS FEELS IT UNLIKELY THEREFORE THAT A PRIVATE SESSION COULD BE HEADED OFF AT THIS POINT, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE SUGGESTION TO HAVE ONE HAS ALREADY SURFACED.

2. LUNS SAID THAT LAST YEAR'S PRIVATE MEETING, RESERVED TO MINISTERS PLUS PERMREPS, HAD CAUSED A LOT OF PROBLEMS SINCE POLITICAL DIRECTORS, WHO ARE FREQUENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING ALLIANCE DECISIONS, WERE LEFT OUT. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY TROUBLESOME, SAID LUNS, IN COUNTRIES LIKE ITALY AND BELGIUM WHERE FOREIGN MINISTERS ARE WEAK AND WHERE, FOR EXAMPLE, DUCCI AND DAVIGNON MAKE FOREIGN CONFIDENTIAL

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POLICY.

3. LUNS UNDERSTOOD THE SECRETARY'S CONCERNS ABOUT PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING AND SAID HE WOULD TRY TO WORK UP A

FORMAT TO MEET THE SECRETARY'S CONCERNS.

RUMSFELD

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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